

April 16, 2014 Community Open House - Alford Library

Feedback Received (04/30/14)

Attendance - 14 people (plus 3 Committee members and 6 city staff)

Staff Summary of Feedback -

- The established urban core and the downtown equally scored as the top priority areas for future infrastructure investment, growth and redevelopment – the suburbs were ranked third.
- Support for investment in improved public transit
- Reinvestment in the city's existing water, sewer and road infrastructure needs to be a priority

Detailed Responses to Questions -

► **Handout Question: How Best for Wichita to Grow? Rank the following three Wichita growth areas according to which you think best supports the future growth, prosperity and quality of life of our community.** 1=best, 2=second best, 3=third best (5 complete responses)

Rank

1 Established Urban Core	40% best	60% 2 nd best	0% 3 rd best
2 Downtown	40% best	40% 2 nd best	20% 3 rd best
3 Suburbs	20% best	0% 2 nd best	80% 3 rd best

General Thoughts and Comments: (Responses organized by themes)

Growth patterns

- Rebuild the center city area
- If the city can't afford to maintain what infrastructure it has, then it is fiscally irresponsible to support continued growth and expansion of our city. New growth won't solve our current infrastructure problems

Transit

- Improved public transit service is critical to creating more discretionary income for working families that can then be spent in the local economy
- Expand public transit and improve service especially in the established urban core areas

Other Investments

- Water, sewer, streets/roads and transit should be upgraded and better maintained
- Long-term water supply is critical to the city's growth
- James Breitenbach (316-772-5057) has a 50 year incremental water plan that he will freely share with the city
- Local street maintenance needs to be a priority
- Investment in our local infrastructure is a better investment than providing economic incentives to expand existing businesses
- Micro/small business loans to young entrepreneurs would help generate new job growth
- Can the city really "manage" growth – market driven?
- Sales tax is preferable to property tax as an additional revenue source
- General concerns expressed about inefficient and corrupt local government practices

► **Board Question: Please list important criteria that you would like elected officials to consider as they make future community infrastructure spending and cost-reduction decisions.**

No responses were submitted to this question

► **Board Question: What thoughts and comments do you have?**

No responses were submitted to this question